

OHIO

1. Student Exchanges - Many high schools offer students the opportunity to travel abroad during summer or spring break. In some cases, travel during school time is prohibited so that students do not miss out on other classes. Some schools are able to maintain student exchanges of several weeks, which include study at a foreign institution and home stay with hosts visiting the Ohio school for several weeks as well. Full-year study abroad opportunities are also available.
2. Teacher Exchange – Ohio participates in the Fulbright Teacher Exchanges.
3. Learning Materials through Foreign Embassies or Education Ministries – Many exhibit materials at our Foreign Language Conferences. Attendees are able to take materials, free of charge, for use in their classrooms.
4. Professional Development Opportunities Abroad – All preservice Foreign Language teachers are encouraged to participate in an immersion experience. Many inservice teachers also continue to develop their linguistic and cultural competence by spending a portion of the summer in travel, study, and/or home stay experiences abroad. Example: Barbara Andrews, Toledo—home stay and study in Spain. Michael Hauber, Akron—study tour of Cuba.
5. Professional Development Opportunities in the United States – Each Foreign Language teacher in Ohio must submit a professional development plan to his/her Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC) for approval. Activities that are considered to be useful to language teachers include but are not limited to the following: graduate coursework at a postsecondary institution; attendance/presenting at our state, regional, and/or national Foreign Language conference; mentoring or evaluating novice teachers; seeking National Board Certification; participating in regional workshops for Foreign Language teachers.
6. Virtual Fieldtrips – Example: Ann Rolston, French Teacher, Hocking HS, Logan, creates multimedia presentations including hotlinks to enable her students to learn about a range of historical, cultural, and artistic phenomena. Ryan Wertz, Spanish Teacher, Hilliard HS, Hilliard uses the Internet to infuse content from a variety of subjects into his classes.
7. School-to-School Collaboration via Internet – Examples: Marcia Garcia, Bishop Hartley High School, Columbus, matches her high school students with penpals both stateside and abroad. Carmel Oberdorfer, Central-Hower High School, Akron teleconferences with the Instituto Thomas Jefferson in Mexico.
8. Promotion of International Education to Parents and the Community – Example: Japanese Feast at Essex Global Elementary School, Akron Public Schools. Charlene Tabata, Elementary Japanese Teacher, cooperates with local universities on K-12 international studies and foreign language.

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